

Health Department,
15, Stockwell Street,
Leek, Staffs.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of the Leek Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my ninth Annual Report, being for the year 1948. In doing so I follow the lines indicated by the Minister of Health in Circular 3/48.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The population is mainly composed of artisans employed in the textile industries of the manufacture and dyeing of silk and artificial silk.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

The area of the Urban District is 4,306 acres with an estimated population of 19,470.

The rateable value is £101,423 and a penny rate produces £419.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births -

Legitimate	367	Birth rate per 1,000 of the	18.84
Illegitimate	23	estimated resident population	1.28
Still Births	12	Rate per 1,000 total births	.61
Deaths -	232	Death rate per 1,000 of the	11.91
		estimated resident population	

Mean age at death -

Males 59.01 years; Females 63.05 years; Males & Females 61.2 years

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's short list.)

No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	Nil
No. 30 Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	"

Death rate of infants under one year of age -

All infants per 1,000 live births	48.72
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	35.89
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	12.32



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Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	"
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	"

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

- X. Medical Officer of Health (Part time) -
Arthur Collis Hallows, M.B., B.Ch. B.A.O. (T.C.Dub.) L.M. (Rotunda)
- X. Chief Sanitary Inspector - also Inspector under the Housing Acts,
Factory and Workshops Act, Shops Acts and Petroleum Act -
James Rowbotham, Assoc. M.C.T., M.S.I.A.
- X. Sanitary Inspector - M. H. Beckwith, M.R.S.I.
Clerk - Miss A. M. Longbottom
- Engineer & Surveyor -
J.A. Gilchrist, M.Inst. M. & Cy.E., P.A.S.I., A.M.I., Struct. E.
- Sewage Works Manager -
R. Newman, A.M. Inst. S.F.

TABLE 1.

Notifiable Diseases during the year.

Disease	Notified	Removed to Leek isolation Hospital, Bagnall Smallpox Hospital or N. Staffs. Infirmary.	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	10	10	100%
Whooping Cough	58		
Measles	177		
Pneumonia	15		6
Erysipelas	2		
	<u>262</u>		

- X. One half of Salaries is contributed by Exchequer grants.

TABLE 11.
Analysis of Notifiable Diseases.


		Age											
		0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65-
Total		1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	up.
Scarlet Fever	10		2	2			2	2	1	1			
Whooping Cough	58	2	9	9	7	13	18			3			
Measles	177	10	22	17	22	39	59	5					
Pneumonia	15	1	1		1		2		1	2	2	2	3
Erysipelas	2												2
Total	262	13	34	28	30	52	81	7	2	6	2	2	5

TUBERCULOSIS

There has been a decrease in the number of cases of Tuberculosis notified, details of which are given in Tables 3 and 4.

10 cases of Pulmonary and 5 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year. 6 cases of Pulmonary and 3 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis received Sanatorium treatment.

TABLE 111.				TUBERCULOSIS			
NEW CASES				MORTALITY			
Pul.		Non-Pul.		Pul.		Non-Pul.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
			1				
1.							
5.	1	1					
10.		2					
15.			1		1		
20.	1						
25.		1			1		
35.	2			2			
45.	4	1		2			
65 up.							
7	3	3	2	4	2		
10		5		6			



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TABLE IV.

Notification of Tuberculosis.

Year	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
1935	19	3	22
1936	12	7	19
1937	15	7	22
1938	16	5	21
1939	10	9	19
1940	10	2	12
1941	10	7	17
1942	20	4	24
1943	17	13	30
1944	6	-	6
1945	11	5	16
1946	5	7	12
1947	15	2	17
1948	10	5	15

In submitting my ninth Annual Report, once more I must thank the Sanitary Inspectors and Staff for their willing help and co-operation in the whole work of the Health Department which has been carried out in a satisfactory manner during the year. It is gratifying to report that no cases of Diphtheria have occurred in the Leek Urban District during the past year. This must be due to the efficacy of the Immunisation scheme which is now showing its good results. There has been no major epidemic during the year although we had 177 cases of Measles notified mainly amongst the under five population. No deaths occurred from Measles. The general health of the population has been good although one notes that the recovery from illnesses is delayed on account of the shortage of fats in the normal diet. There is still an urgent need for more houses.

A. COLLIS HALLOWES.

TABLE VI.
ANALYSIS OF DEATH RETURNS.

	Sex	All Ages			Sex	All Ages
All causes	M	104	20. Other diseases of	M	3	
	F	128	circ. system	F	--	
1. Typhoid and Parat:	M	--	21. Bronchitis	M	8	
Fevers	F	--		F	12	
2. Cerebro Spinal	M	--	22. Pneumonia	M	3	
Fever	F	--		F	3	
3. Scarlet Fever	M	--	23. Other resp. diseases	M	--	
	F	--		F	1	
4. Whooping Cough	M	--	24. Ulcer of stomach	M	--	
	F	--		F	1	
5. Diphtheria	M	--	25. Diarrhoea	M	--	
	F	--		F	--	
6. Tuberculosis of	M	3	26. Appendicitis	M	--	
Respiratory system	F	3		F	--	
7. Other Tuberculosis	M	1	27. Other digestive	M	--	
Diseases	F	--	diseases	F	3	
8. Syphilitic Disease	M	--	28. Nephritis	M	--	
	F	1		F	4	
9. Influenza	M	--	29. Puerperal Sepsis	M	--	
	F	--		F	--	
10. Measles	M	--	30. Other maternal causes	M	--	
	F	--		F	--	
11. Ac. Polio-myel &	M	--	31. Premature birth	M	3	
Polio-encephalitis	F	--		F	3	
12. Acute Inf.	M	--	32. Congenital	M	5	
Encephalitis	F	--	malformations birth	F	2	
			inj; infantile disease			
13. Cancer of B.Cav:			33. Suicide	M	1	
Oesoph (M)	M	--		F	1	
Uterus (F)	F	2	34. Road traffic accident	M	1	
14. Cancer of stomach	M	1		F	--	
& Duodenum	F	5	35. Other violent causes	M	1	
15. Cancer of breast	M	--		F	5	
	F	6	36. All other causes	M	7	
16. Cancer of all other	M	11		F	11	
sites	F	11				
17. Diabetes	M	--				
	F	--				
18. Intracranial	M	13				
vascular lesions	F	3				
19. Heart disease	M	43				
	F	46				

Health Department,
15, Stockwell Street,
Leek, Staffs.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Leek Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my fifteenth Annual Report being for the year 1948, and in doing so have followed the suggestions contained in the Ministry of Health Circular 3/49.

There has been a slight increase in the number of cattle, calves and pigs slaughtered with a corresponding decrease in the number of sheep. Altogether 542 visits were made to the slaughterhouse for the purpose of inspection of carcasses, a weekly average of 10.4. The work has proceeded smoothly and once again I am pleased to place on record the assistance and co-operation we have received from the Manager, Mr. F. Foster, and the Staff at the slaughterhouse.

Elsewhere in the report will be found the details of our activities of pest (or rodent) control. It will be noticed that excluding sewers 267 inspections were made and 118 treatments given.

The number of new houses constructed during 1948 was 49. Although we still have a comparatively long waiting list of applicants for houses the occupation of those already built has eased the situation but more are required before the majority of the real hardship cases can be dealt with.

Finally, Gentlemen, I should like to place on record my appreciation of the co-operation and understanding shown to me at all times by the Medical Officer of Health and the loyalty and assistance I have always received from the willing Staff of the Health Department.

MEAT

There was only one slaughterhouse in use during the year and 542 visits were made for the purpose of inspection.

The number of carcasses inspected was 7,121 comprising 2,359 Oxen, 1,142 Calves, 3,498 Sheep and 122 Pigs.

164 whole carcasses and the following organs were found to be unsound or diseased and were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected	2359	1142	3498	122
All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole carcass condemned.	26	6	6	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	515	6	393	11
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	22.9%	1.05%	11.4%	11.4%
Tuberculosis only Whole carcass condemned	120	1	-	2
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	729	-	-	5
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tuberculosis	35.9%	.09%	-	5.7%

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF ORGANS CONDEMNED
WITH CAUSES OF CONDEMNATION.

	<u>CATTLE</u>				<u>SHEEP</u>	
	Whole carcass & all offal	Quarters Hind	Fore	Meat	Whole carcass & all offal	Mutton
<u>TUBERCULOSIS</u>	120	10	62	2,136 lbs.	-	-
<u>SEPTIC CONDITIONS</u>	1	-	-	-	1	-
<u>EMACIATION & OEDEMA</u>	19	-	-	-	3	-
<u>BRUISING</u>	2	5	-	-	-	26 lbs.
<u>MORIBUND & ILLIBED</u>	2	-	-	-	2	-
<u>JOHNES DISEASE</u>	1	-	-	-	-	-
<u>MEDICINE TAINT</u>	1	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	146	15	62	2,136 lbs.	6	26 lbs.

	<u>CALVES</u>				<u>PIGS</u>	
<u>TUBERCULOSIS</u>	1	-	-	-	2	-
<u>BRUISING</u>	-	-	-	-	-	18 lbs.
<u>IMMATURITY</u>	5	-	-	-	1	-
<u>ANTHRAX</u>	-	-	-	-	1	-
<u>JAUNDICE</u>	1	-	-	-	-	-
<u>PERITONITIS</u>	-	-	-	-	1	-
Totals	7	-	-	-	5	18 lbs.

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF ORGANS CONDEMNED
WITH CAUSES OF CONDEMNATION.

	CATTLE	CALVES	SHEEP	PIGS
<u>LUNGS:</u>				
Tuberculosis	554	-	-	1
Abscesses	2	-	-	-
Pneumonia	5	-	-	-
Pleurisy	1	-	-	-
Parasites	139	-	-	-
Emphysema	8	-	-	-
Other conditions	30	-	-	-
Total	<u>739</u>	-	-	<u>1</u>
<u>HEARTS:</u>				
Pericarditis:T.B.	3	-	-	-
Pericarditis	14	-	-	-
Total	<u>22</u>	-	-	-
<u>MESENTERIES:</u>				
Tuberculosis	251	-	-	-
Oedema	17	-	-	5
Total	<u>268</u>	-	-	<u>5</u>
<u>STOMACHS:</u>				
Peritonitis:T.B.	15	-	-	-
Peritonitis	-	-	-	-
Total	<u>15</u>	-	-	-
<u>SPLEENS:</u>				
Tuberculosis	8	-	-	-
Inflammation	-	-	-	-
Cysts	-	-	-	-
Total	<u>8</u>	-	-	-
<u>LIVERS:</u>				
	Whole	Part		
Tuberculosis	87	-	-	-
Abscesses	52	-	-	-
Cav.Angioma	149	-	-	-
Diatomabiosis	314	856	392	-
Fatty Degeneration	227	2	-	-
Necrosis	1	-	-	-
Cirrhosis	21	-	1	-
Echinococcus	10	-	-	-
Total	<u>861</u>	<u>856</u>	<u>393</u>	-
<u>HEADS & TONGUES</u>				
Tuberculosis	302	-	-	5
Actinomycosis	13	-	-	-
Abscesses	-	1	-	-
Injury	-	-	-	-
Total	<u>314</u>	<u>1</u>	-	<u>5</u>
<u>SKINTS:</u>				
Peritonitis:T.B.	5	-	-	-
Peritonitis	-	-	-	-
Total	<u>5</u>	-	-	-
<u>PLUCKS:</u>				
Tuberculosis	-	4	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	7
Total	-	<u>4</u>	-	<u>8</u>

RODENT CONTROL.

Two sewer treatments were done during the year. One in March, the other in September. Altogether 245 manholes were baited and of these 57 showed takes, chiefly partial. There were 156 inspections made of private dwellings and 82 treatments were carried out. 82 visits were paid to third party premises and 19 treatments were carried out under this portion of the scheme. The Council's tip continues to be a source of trouble and was inspected on 22 occasions. 14 treatments were necessary during the year.

It was necessary to inspect the banks of the river Churnett on 7 occasions and 3 treatments were found necessary.

It may with advantage be stated here that for one treatment it is usually necessary to pre-bait on three consecutive days with wholesome food, poison on the fourth day and visit again on the fifth day to pick up dead rats and the remainder of the poison baits in order to ensure the latter are disposed of so as not to endanger children, livestock etc.

TABLE VIII.
H O U S I N G

1.	Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:	
(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	146
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	204
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Act 1936.	nil
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	nil
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	nil
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	146
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice:	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.	146
3.	Action under Statutory powers during the year:	
	(a) Proceedings under sections 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	nil
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
	(a) By Owners	nil
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	"
	(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	nil
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
	(a) By Owners	nil
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	"

TABLE VIII (CONTINUED)

(c)	Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	Nil
(d)	Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the room or tenement having been rendered fit.	Nil

FACTORIES ACTS 1937/1948.

Number of premises on register	187
Number of inspections during year	44
Number of cases in which defects were found	8
Number of cases in which defects were remedied during year	8

HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL.

There are three motor vehicles engaged solely on the collection of house refuse disposed of by tipping.

2,462 loads of ashes and house refuse were removed during the year.

TABLE 1X.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE TOWN.

1.	Premises cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	2
2.	Drains tested	...	...	...	15
3.	" reconstructed	...	...	...	2
4.	" repaired	...	...	...	14
5.	" cleaned	...	...	...	21
6.	Water closets cleansed	...	...	...	3
7.	" " repaired	...	...	...	10
8.	" " constructed	...	...	...	2
9.	Flushing arrangements provided	...	...	...	6
10.	Waste pipes altered or repaired	...	...	...	6
11.	Valve water pipes repaired	...	...	...	8
12.	Roofs and gutters repaired	...	...	...	20
13.	Additional ventilation provided	...	...	...	4
14.	Additional light provided	...	...	...	-
15.	Damp conditions remedied	...	...	...	18
16.	Yards drained and paved	...	...	...	2
17.	Bathrooms provided	...	...	...	49
18.	Fireplaces provided or repaired	...	...	...	6
19.	Coppers provided or repaired	...	...	...	2
20.	Cases of overcrowding abated	...	...	...	17
21.	Accumulations of manure etc., removed	...	...	...	-
22.	Smoke nuisances	...	...	...	-
23.	Cesspools cleansed	...	...	...	1
24.	Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	100
25.	Privies converted into water closets	...	...	...	-
26.	Staircases repaired	...	...	...	1
27.	Handrails provided	...	...	...	2
28.	Windows repaired	...	...	...	17
29.	Floors repaired	...	...	...	13
30.	Walls and ceilings repaired	...	...	...	24
31.	Food storage provided	...	...	...	-
32.	Water supply provided or repaired	...	...	...	5
33.	Sinks provided	...	...	...	9
34.	Doors repaired	...	...	...	5
35.	Back doors provided	...	...	...	-
36.	Walls painted	...	...	...	6
37.	Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	3
38.	Other nuisances	...	...	...	2
39.	Septic tanks provided	...	...	...	1

396

No. of preliminary notices served	124
No. of preliminary notices complied with, without the service of statutory notices	124
No. of statutory notices served	-
No. of statutory notices complied with	-

TABLE X.

No. of premises where notifiable diseases have occurred	281
No. of premises inspected where " " "	10
No. of premises disinfected " " "	15
Nuisances reported to Health Department	181
Inspection of premises where nuisances were found	164
" premises where no nuisances were found	17
" premises where offensive trades are conducted	-
" houses let in lodgings	4
" common Lodging Houses	3
" Workshops	-
" Factories	30
" Slaughterhouses	542
" Dairies, Milkshops and Farms	32
" Bakehouses	14
" Markets and Stalls	52
" Food premises	26
re-inspections after complaints	311
" under Housing Acts	6
	<u>1688</u>

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply has consistantly been of good quality and during the year 32 samples were taken which proved quite satisfactory.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER 1926.

The register under this Order is made up as follows:-

94 persons registered

51 as cowkeepers

74 as retail purveyors

25 as retailers of bottled and sterilized milk

51 as wholesale producers

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER 1936.

Under this Order there are 24 persons licensed to sell Accredited Milk; three to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk and one to sell Pasteurised Milk from seven premises.

During the year 23 samples were taken for keeping quality and those which were not satisfactory were followed-up with satisfactory results.

1 sample for Tuberculosis proved negative.

FOOD INSPECTIONS

No. of Inspections	114
--------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Foodstuffs Condemned

Assorted Foodstuffs	...	...	...	...	...	700 tins
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	109 lbs.
Sweets	...	...	...	...	...	23 "
Dates	...	...	...	...	...	71 "
Figs	...	...	...	...	...	113 "
Prunes	...	...	...	...	...	90 "
Dried Apricots	...	...	...	...	...	28 "
Barley flakes	...	...	...	...	...	88½ "
Rye meal	...	...	...	...	...	672 "
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	233¾ "
Eggs	...	...	...	...	...	4¾ dozen
Chicken	...	...	...	...	...	3 lbs.
Potatoes	...	...	...	...	...	159 bags
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	406 lbs.

Imported and Canned Meats

Corned Beef and Mutton	...	...	...	...	...	1,096½ lbs.
Frozen Beef	...	...	...	...	...	152 "
" Lamb	...	...	...	...	...	46 "

J. ROWBOTHAM.

